

Council on Aging Board

Minutes of August 14, 2002

In Attendance: Chairman Paul Keegan, Vice-Chairman Helene Tanenholtz, Board members Bettyann Chamberlin, Al Crommett, Lillian Goodman, Tim Swiss and Secretary John Concordia. Director Sharon Yager, CMAA Representative Vicki Zwerdling and Dolores Lake, Shrews.Comm.Part./Children were also present.

1. Chairman's Comments:

The Chairman opened the meeting at 10:10am. The June meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted. He then presented information to the board regarding a July 10th meeting he and Sharon had with the Shrewsbury Housing Authority. The Authority has been considering possible uses of land it owns on N. Quinsigamond Ave. for additional housing/assisted living/affordable housing, etc. A private consulting company surveyed the possibilities. These were reviewed and discussed but no immediate action was recommended.

Paul and Sharon represented the board at funeral service for Pauline Quist, our deceased outreach coordinator and the board discussed ideas for a memorial. A patio brick seemed appropriate to board members—Sharon will check with the family before a decision is made.

Paul reported on some initiatives being taken in Marlboro to find some real estate tax relief for seniors/disabled. Affordable housing is a gnawing issue in Central MA generally at the present time.

2. Directors Comments:

Sharon reported that 2 high school student volunteers had been very helpful during the summer vacation particularly with their computer expertise at work on the Newsletter.

She reported on the Department Head meeting in July—one important issue includes a disaster planning review. At some point in time a surprise simulated disaster “event” will take place to test reactions.

She reported that the library is now offering a CD repair service.

On a personal level she reported that she would no longer serve as chairperson at CMACA which the board applauded. She is continuing her program of study toward an advanced degree by the spring of 2004.

3. Liaison Reports:

No activities to report from the Friends of the SCC, Inc. or the Shrews.Comm.Part./Children.

CMAA: Vicki reported that the CMAA would be meeting on the 15th at which she expected to see a written report on the issues discussed previously. Public review will be available at a later time.

Elder Home Care Services: Betty will be carrying out the affairs, which Pauline was handling and will be on the payroll with some salary adjustments to be worked out.

4. Old Business:

No news yet from the State on our 3rd van situation except that the Friends will be the official owner when we get one.

The “big” survey was not completed in June as we anticipated however with help from the high school volunteers this summer the mailing list has been refined which will save some mailing costs. The town budget is being used for the mailing cost.

The health fair committee has been meeting during the summer and the program is fairly well complete—a summary presented to the board by Helene and Lillian is attached to this report.

5. New Business:

Sharon has program information on the MCOA Fall Conference to be held at the Cape again in October. Board members should decide on attending by our next meeting.

New Pharmaceutical Grants—Vicki reported that CMAA has available \$10,000 from a Federal initiative in education/information sharing on medication use, etc. Some small amount may be made available to us if we find a need.

Pharmaceutical screening forms are being generated with help from Dr. Clermont to assist seniors in proper use of medications.

6. Ideas were solicited from the board for possible COA activities in the Fall/275th anniversary celebrations.

Respectively submitted:

John Concordia, Secretary